

AGENDA ITEM IV

PROPOSED LETTER OF INTENT

LOUISIANA TECH UNIVERSITY

B.S. IN NANOSYSTEMS ENGINEERING

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STAFF COMMENT

In its Letter of Intent, the University notes that the projected program would complement existing programs and research efforts already underway, in particular the ongoing successful work of the Center for Biomedical Engineering and Rehabilitative Sciences and the Institute for Micromanufacturing.

STAFF ANALYSIS

Appropriateness with the Role, Scope and Mission

The proposed program is consistent with the role, scope and mission of Louisiana Tech University.

Potential for Unnecessary Program Duplication

There is currently no similar program offered by state institutions of higher education; therefore, unnecessary program duplication is not a relevant issue.

Consistency with Desegregation Agreement

The Desegregation Settlement Agreement does not provide for the development of a B.S. program in Nanosystems Engineering at any predominantly black institution; therefore, mandates of the Settlement Agreement do not apply.

Prospects for Funding

The University does not anticipate the need for additional state funding. Any new faculty required would be hired using faculty lines which come open through retirements and/or resignations. Additional coursework will be developed as needed within the confines of current instructional budgets. A significant amount of the laboratory facilities and equipment needed for the projected program already exists, and further additions and/or acquisitions will be funded through external resources.

STAFF SUMMARY

The staff concludes that the Letter of Intent for the projected B.S. program in Nanosystems Engineering at Louisiana Tech University meets all requirements of **Academic Affairs Policy 2.4 - Letter of Intent for Projected New Academic Programs**. Approval is therefore recommended.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

The staff recommends that the Academic and Student Affairs Committee grant approval for the proposed Letter of Intent for the projected B.S. program in Nanosystems Engineering (CIP Code 14.9999) at Louisiana Tech University.